

III. REMARKS

In the Office Action, 1-2, 4, 7-10, 12-13, 15 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Fernandez (US 6411143) in view of Wolf (US 2002/0080825) for reasons set forth in the Action. Other ones of the claims were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over various combinations of the cited art, namely, claims 3, 5, 11, 14, 16 and 22 over Fernandez in view of Wolf and Shinomiya (US 6259901), and claims 6-7 over Fernandez in view of Wolf and Shimamoto (US 5986641) for reasons set forth in the Action.

In the passages cited by the examiner, particularly with reference to Fernandez and Wolf, which apply to the rejections of all of the claims, it is noted that there is no specific teaching of different cable lengths among the connections between the slave equipments to the master equipment, and not teaching of a modification of PLLs of the various slave equipments to output additional phase delays to equalize the phase delays of all of the different length cables. It is believed that the examiner has taken the position that, with respect to the extent of the detail in the description of equipment set forth in the independent system claim 1 and method claim 12, the claims can be read on the cited art.

Accordingly, the claims are provided with additional detail in the construction (claim 1) and in the method (claim 12) so as to clearly set forth claimed subject matter that is not found in the teachings of the Fernandez and the Wolf references, considered alone, or in combination.

Claim 15 is cancelled because its subject matter is disclosed in claim 12 from which claim 15 depended. The dependency of claim 16 is changed for dependency from claim 12 in view of the cancellation of claim 15.

It is urged that the additional detail provided in the subject matter of the independent claims clarifies the description, as set forth in the original claims, so as to distinguish

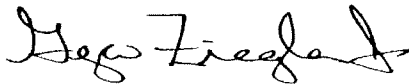
over the teachings of the cited art, thereby to overcome the rejections and provide for allowable subject matter in the claims.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 16-1350 \$120.00 for a one (1) month extension of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



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1 October 2007
Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically on the date indicated below addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 1 October 2007 Signature: Shannon D'Amico
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